

BECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Date of Publication: Wednesday 2nd July 2025

To: Cllr Paula Fox (Chair), Cllr Kevin Bishop, Cllr Simon Milner, Cllr Anne Owen, Cllr Clive Winterbourne and Cllr Liz Wright (one vacancy)

NOTICE OF MEETING

You are hereby summoned to attend the Beckington Parish Council meeting to be held on Wednesday 9th July 2025 commencing at 7:00pm in the Beckington Memorial Hall, Bath Road, Beckington, Frome BA11 6SH.

Paul Russell
Clerk to the Council

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Prior to the start of the meeting fifteen minutes will be allowed for questions or comments from members of the public. Any resident wishing to address the Council will have a maximum of 3 minutes to speak. Questions may not be answered at the meeting but a written reply will be provided within 7 days. Once the meeting has started members of the public are reminded that they have no right to speak. The Somerset Councillors are invited to make a report to the Parish Council in this time as well.

AGENDA

30. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence and resolve to accept the reasons.

31. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Members to declare any 'Pecuniary' or 'Other' interests under the council's code of conduct. Members are reminded of their responsibility to register their interests with Somerset Council and to keep that register up to date.

32. MINUTES

To formally approve and adopt the minutes of the Beckington Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 11th June 2025 (attached)

33. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

- (a) **Neighbourhood Plan Development** – To receive an update on the development of the Neighbourhood Plan.

34. PLANNING, LICENSING & TREE APPLICATIONS:

- (a) The following applications will be considered:

Proposal: Proposed annex to create double garage, tool store and additional ancillary accommodation and construct link building over pedestrian access and gable end extension to create shower room

Location: Tower Hill Barn Mill Lane Beckington Frome Somerset

Application: Full Application

Number: 2025/1049/FUL

Proposal: Erection of rear single storey extension and associated works.

Location: Wagtail Cottage Rudge Lane Rudge Frome Somerset

Type: Householder Application

Number: 2025/1051/HSE

- (b) **Planning Application 2024/2309** – To receive an update on this appeal following the hearing on 8th July 2025.

- (c) **Planning Application 2024/1865/FUL** – To receive an update following the Committee meeting held on 1st July 2025

35. COLLABORATION PROPOSAL

To receive an update on the proposed collaboration with neighbouring parish councils.

36. COMMUNICATIONS

To consider Council communications via Facebook and the Network magazine for September 2025.

37. ENHANCED HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE PILOT UPDATE

Please see the attached letter from Somerset Highways regarding this pilot.

38. SOMERSET'S NEW LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN

To note that the suite of transport policy documents below will be going out to consultation:

- The Local Transport Plan (LTP)
- Design and Provide Approach & Transport Assessment/Statement Scoping Guidance (D&P Guidance), and
- Somerset Travel Plan Guidance for New Development (TP Guidance)

39. BAPTIST GRAVEYARD UPDATE

Cllr Bishop will give Members an update following a recent meeting to discuss the future of this site.

40. LCWIP UPDATE

Please see the attached report update from Cllr Milner who is leading on this project.

41. RECRUITMENT

To consider commencing the recruitment process to replace the current Clerk. Options to provide support for recruitment is attached. Please also note that note that the Councils existing HR contract is due to expire on the 1st of October. If the Council wish to renew this for three years we will retain the payment the same as it is now, £840 per annum. A five year option will receive a further 20% discount.

42. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Payments – To approve the payments outlined below:

Supplier	Reason	Net	VAT	Total
Paul Russell	Salary July 25	£551.25	£0.00	£551.25
Paul Russell	Expenses July 25	£25.00	£0.00	£25.00
HMRC Cumbernauld	PAYE June 25	£137.60	£0.00	£137.60
Context Planning	CP1357	£2,925.00	£585.00	£3,510.00
Context Planning	CP1358	£1,365.00	£273.00	£1,638.00
Georgina Fletcher	NP Expenses	£74.90	£14.98	£89.88
Beckington Memorial Hall	Hire BMH16668154	£32.00	£0.00	£32.00
		£5,110.75	£872.98	£5,983.73

(b) End of Year Accounts – To note that the end of year accounts have now been submitted to PKF Littlejohn for external audit.

43. NEXT MEETING

To note that the next scheduled meetings of Beckington Parish Council will be held on the dates below commencing at 7pm in Beckington Memorial Hall:

- Tuesday 9th September
- Tuesday 14th October
- Tuesday 11th November

BECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of Beckington Parish Council held on Wednesday 11th June 2025 commencing at 7:00pm in the Beckington Memorial Hall, Bath Road, Beckington, Frome BA11 6SH

PRESENT: Cllr Paula Fox (Chair), Cllr Kevin Bishop, Cllr Anne Owen, Cllr Simon Milner, Cllr Liz Wright and Cllr Clive Winterbourne.

ALSO PRESENT: Cllr Denton and the Clerk to the Council.

Public participation: There were no members of the public present. No matters were raised.

Cllr Denton and Cllr Boyden had provided a written report prior to the meeting which had been circulated to Members. The following items were highlighted:

- There was a petition related to Frome Community Hospital against the proposed closure;
- New bus routes were being launched on 25th June;
- It was agreed to publish the “report a highway problem” link on the Council website;
- Street cleaning services, flytipping clearance, bin emptying, grass cutting, and the inspection and maintenance of open spaces, play areas and trees are now being delivered in-house by Somerset Council, after the 2012 outsourced contract with IdVerde came to an end in June;
- Noted that Cllr Winterbourne had put his name forward to sit on the Environment Agency Steering Group to discuss water quality in the local area.

19. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been given by Ward Cllr Bowden.

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest made.

21. MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr Milner, seconded by Cllr Winterbourne and **RESOLVED** to formally approve and adopt the minutes of the Beckington Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 21st May 2025.

22. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

(a) Neighbourhood Plan Development – The following update was noted:

- No Steering Group meetings had been held since the last Council meeting;
- Objections to the Tower Hill application had been submitted on behalf of the Steering Group using some of the survey findings as evidence;

- A number of Landscape Architects had been approached to provide quotations to carry out the landscape assessment using a more robust methodology than previously submitted.

23. PLANNING, LICENSING & TREE APPLICATIONS:

(a) The following comments were agreed to be submitted:

Proposal: Variation of conditions 2 - Plans List (Compliance) and 3 (External Lighting) of Planning Consent 2024/2234/FUL (Convert existing garage space into ground floor bedroom for disabled access. Construct new garage with flat roof link.)

Location: 3 The Weavers Beckington Frome Somerset BA11 6SA

Type: Variation or Removal of Conditions

Number: 2025/0871/VRC

Comment: Support. The pitch roof of the link section is in keeping with the style of the main house. The wooden framed garage is less in keeping with the style of the house but the shiplap boarding is largely out of direct view of the neighbours and as such is acceptable. Overall these changes will enable improvement of the housing stock of Beckington which can cater for the disabled.

(b) **Appeal: Planning Application 2024/2309** – It was proposed by Cllr Wright, seconded by Cllr Owen and **RESOLVED** to ratify the submission drafted by Context Planning on behalf of the Parish Council.

The following matters were noted:

- Thanks were extended to Cllrs Wright and Winterbourne for all their work in helping to develop the response;
- Two weeks' notice was expected regarding the appeal hearing. IT would probably take place on 8th July 2025 starting at 9:30am at the Council Offices in Shepton Mallet;
- The Parish Council would be represented by Context Planning (Ms Hampden). Ongoing engagement with Context Planning would be at £130 per hour. Council formally ratified this expenditure;
- Invoices up to and including 6th June 2025 had been requested from Context Planning;
- Cllrs Wright and Winterbourne would support the organisation of the presentation;
- Community engagement would include an email advising those who had signed up to hold the date when it had been confirmed. Cllr Owen would draft a template email and Cllr Milner would send it out;
- Cllrs Owen, Wright and Winterbourne would try to attend the hearing;
- Noted that CPRE had put in a submission based on the site being an area that should be protected;
- CPRE had offered to support to the Neighbourhood Plan to help designate sites that could be protected;

- Cllr Winterbourne had identified a bat expert who reviewed the element of the draft report related to Bats prior to submission;
- Individuals had submitted reports outlining their concerns regarding sewage issues.

It was proposed by Cllr Owen, seconded by Cllr Winterbourne and **RESOLVED** to continue to engage Context Planning to provide assistance.

With regard to the Cotswold Homes application a response had been received from the NHS by the planning authority.

With regard to the water quality issue additional discussions had taken place with the applicant and a solution had been proposed but a response was awaited from the Environment Agency.

It was expected that this application would be considered at the next Planning Committee meeting to be held on 1st July 2025.

The site at Great Dunns was expected to be considered by the Planning Committee either at its meeting on 1st July or 4th August 2025 but nothing had been confirmed.

23. COLLABORATION PROPOSAL

Council noted that initial meeting on the proposed collaboration with Berkley, Selwood and Lullington Parish Councils had been held. Priorities had not yet been decided as yet.

Rode and Norton St Philip Parish Councils would be involved separately.

24. COMMUNICATIONS

Council noted that the July submission had been drafted and submitted. There was no magazine in August so the next submission to be developed would be for the September issue.

25. SHAREPOINT FOR DOCUMENTATION

It was agreed to defer this until the meeting to be held in September 2025.

26. 2025/26 PROJECTS

It was agreed to draft a list of priorities that the Council wished to develop and consider it at the September meeting. Councillors would submit their thoughts to the Clerk who would develop the priority list.

27. The Verge on Rudge Lane

It was noted there was a possible case for enforcement action at this location. It was agreed to submit details to Cllr Denton who would send the information to the correct officer.

28. FINANCIAL MATTERS

- (a) Payments** – It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payments outlined below:

Supplier	Reason	Net	VAT	Total
Paul Russell	Salary June 25	£551.25	£0.00	£551.25
Paul Russell	Expenses June 25	£25.00	£0.00	£25.00
HMRC Cumbernauld	PAYE June 25	£137.60	£0.00	£137.60
MiJan Ltd	Accounts package	£99.00	£0.00	£99.00
JM Fencing	Maintenance - Sue's Walk	£350.00	£70.00	£420.00
Beckington Memorial Hall	Hire BMH16668154	£72.00	£0.00	£72.00
		£1,234.85	£70.00	£1,304.85

29. NEXT MEETING

Council noted that the next scheduled meetings of Beckington Parish Council would be held on the dates below commencing at 7pm in Beckington Memorial Hall:

- Wednesday 9th July
- Tuesday 9th September
- Tuesday 14th October
- Tuesday 11th November

There being no other business the Chair thanked Members for attending and closed the meeting at 9:10pm.

CHAIR:

DATE: